

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 EB-11 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /180 W

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R 241725Z OCT 73

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2564

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GE, VN

SUBJECT: PHAM VAN DONG IN GDR

1. AT INVITATION OF SED AND EAST GERMAN GOVERNMENT, HIGH-LEVEL NORTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT/PARTY DELEGATION HEADED BY PREMIER PHAM VAN DONG PAID OFFICIAL VISIT TO GDR OCTOBER 18-23. HIGHLIGHTS OF VISIT INCLUDED MEETINGS WITH HONECKER AND STOPH, NEGOTIATING SESSIONS WITH SINDERMAN, MASS SOLIDARITY MEETING IN EAST BERLIN, TRADITIONAL WREATH-LAYING AT SOVIET WAR MONUMENT AND SIDE TRIPS TO POTSDAM, ERFURT AND BUCHENWALD. PRESS COVERAGE OF EVENTS WAS PROMINENT AND HEAVY.

2. WHILE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON VISIT IN LARGE PART REHASH OF KNOWN GDR AND DRV FOREIGN POLICY POSITIONS, IT CON-

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TAINED TWO ITEMS WHICH APPEAR TO BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST.

FIRST, GDR PLEDGED SUBSTANTIAL NEW ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO DRV, PRIMARILY IN FORM OF DELIVERY OF INDUSTRIAL GOODS, BUT ALSO INCLUDING RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN NORTH VIETNAM AND INCREASED TRAINING OF NORTH VIETNAMESE IN EAST GERMANY. CLEAR IMPLICATION OF COMMUNIQUE IS THAT MOST ASSISTANCE WOULD BE IN FORM OF GRANT. SECOND, WHILE BOTH SIDES AS EXPECTED GENERALLY SIDE-STEPPED SINO-SOVIET DISPUTE, GDR DID SUCCEED IN SECURING GRUDGING DRV SUPPORT FOR THOSE DEVELOPMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE SUPPORTED BY SOVIETS BUT CRITICIZED BY CHINESE. IN GINGERLY WORDED STATEMENT, DRV JOINED GDR IN CONDEMNING "IMPERIALIST FORCES IN FRG" FOR ATTEMPTING TO UNDERMINE GDR/FRG GENERAL RELATIONS TREATY, AND IN SUPPORTING "SYSTEM OF EUROPEAN TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS," AS WELL AS CSCE.KLEIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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To: STATE
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